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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/02/2007

SPONSOR Hall LAST UPDATED _____ HB 387

SHORT TITLE NMSU Animal & Range Sciences Judging Program SB _____

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico State University – College of Agriculture (NMSU-COA)
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 387 appropriates \$50,000 from the General Fund to the Regents of NMSU for expenditure in FY 2008 to pay for the Animal and Range Sciences Judging Program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Animal and Range Sciences Judging Program was established in the 1960s, phased out in 1991, and then reestablished in 2002. Current funding comes from Animal and Range Science Department instructional dollars. Funding allows for 30 students to participate per year. HB 387 would expand the program to allow 60 students per year.

NMSU has three fields of judging: Livestock, Wool and Horsing. In addition to being taught how to evaluate for quality, students are trained to deliver oral reasons defending their decisions. Skills such as public speaking, leadership, perseverance, and decisiveness are honed to a level allowing team members to set and reach goals that would otherwise be unattainable. According to the NMSU Animal and Range Science website, time and again, employers seek out college graduates with previous judging experience to fill key industry positions.

This request in the amount of \$50,000 was submitted by NMSU to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review, but is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY08.

BM/csd